

Appln No. 09/885,307
Amdt date September 14, 2006
Reply to Office action of June 14, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-6, 9, 11, 24-29, 32-33, and 56-80 were pending in this application when last examined by the Examiner. Claims 1-2, 9, 11, 24-25, 32-33, 57, 59-60, 64, 68, 70, 72-73, and 78 have been amended. Claims 56, 58, 67, 69, and 71 have been canceled. Claims 81-84 have been added. The new claims do not add any new matter and do not require a new search. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendments and an early indication of allowance of the now-pending claims 1-6, 9, 11, 24-29, 32-33, 57, 59, 60-66, 68, 70, and 72-84.

In the final Office action, the Examiner continued to reject all pending claims over cited prior art except that he indicated that claims 58, 64, 71, and 78 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 58 and intervening claim 56. Claims 56 and 58 have been canceled. Accordingly, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 24 is a system counterpart to claim 1. Claim 24 has been amended to include limitations that are similar to the limitations of allowable claim 58 and intervening claim 56. Accordingly, claim 24 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 64 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 64 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 68 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 71 and intervening claim 69. Claims 69 and 71 have been canceled. Accordingly, claim 68 is now in condition for allowance.

Allowable claim 78 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of claim 68. Accordingly, claim 78 is now in condition for allowance.

New claims 81-83 mirror claims 25, 32, and 33, respectively, and are in condition for allowance because they depend on an allowable base claim and for the additional limitations that they contain.

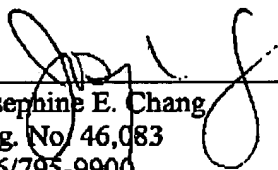
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New claim 84 is a system counterpart to claim 64, and includes limitations that similar to the limitations of claim 64 which make claim 64 allowable. Accordingly, claim 84 is in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, an early indication of allowance of the now pending claims 1-6, 9, 11, 24-29, 32-33, 57, 59, 60-66, 68, 70, and 72-84 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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